

Calendar No. 1913

82D CONGRESS

2d Session

SENATE

REPORT

No. 1986

GRANTS OR LOANS TO NEEDY WIDOWS OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS

JUNE 28 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CONNALLY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted
the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3413]

The Committee on Foreign Relations, having had under consideration the financial situation of certain widows of Foreign Service officers reports favorably its own bill which authorizes and directs the Secretary of State to make grants or loans not exceeding \$100 per month, to any widow of a Foreign Service officer who died prior to the effective date of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, and recommends that it do pass.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE RESOLUTION

This bill authorizes and directs the Secretary of State to make grants or loans not exceeding \$100 per month, to any widow of a Foreign Service officer who died prior to the effective date of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, who shall be found by the Secretary of State to be in actual need and without other adequate means of support. This bill provides that no loans or grants to such widows shall exceed the maximum amount payable to any widow covered by the terms of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as amended, and authorizes such sums, not in excess of \$50,000 in any fiscal year, as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

At the present time there are about 50 widows of Foreign Service officers, most of them over 60 years of age and many of whom are in straightened circumstances, who would be covered by this legislation.

These widows are in these circumstances because their husbands died before Congress made adequate provision in law for them. By the act of 1939, for example, annuities could not be paid to the widow of an officer who died in the service unless he had rendered at least 15 years service and had been married at least 5 years prior to his death. Under existing law, however, the requirement of service is

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reduced to 5 years and the officer must have been married at last 3 years.

This bill involves a moderate cost this year. The amounts in the years ahead will become progressively smaller as the surviving widows decrease in number.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On June 27, 1952, the committee considered this bill and voted, without opposition, to report it favorably to the Senate.

The committee feels that the passage of this bill will be a step toward ameliorating the condition of these needy women, many of whom spent long, hard years abroad in the service of their country, and now find themselves in dire circumstances.

June 28 (Wednesday) - June 29, 1952 - Ordered to be printed

Mr. CONNALLY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

REPORT

(To accompany S. 3413)

The Committee on Foreign Relations, having had under consideration the financial situation of certain widows of Foreign Service officers, reports favorably its own bill which authorizes and directs the Secretary of State to make grants not exceeding \$100 per month to any widow of a Foreign Service officer who died prior to the effective date of the Foreign Service Act of 1950, and recommends that it do pass.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSITION

This bill authorizes and directs the Secretary of State to make grants not exceeding \$100 per month to any widow of a Foreign Service officer who died prior to the effective date of the Foreign Service Act of 1950, who shall be found by the Secretary of State to be in actual need and without other adequate means of support. The bill provides that no loans or grants to such widows shall exceed the maximum amount payable to any widow as provided in the Foreign Service Act of 1950 as amended, and authorizes the Secretary of State to make such grants as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

At the present time there are about 35 widows of Foreign Service officers most of whom are over 60 years of age and many of whom are in straitened circumstances, who would be covered by this legislation. These widows are in these circumstances because their husbands died before Congress made adequate provision in law for them. By the act of 1939, for example, annuities could not be paid to the widow of an officer who died in the service unless he had rendered at least 15 years service and had been married at least 5 years prior to his death. Under existing law, however, the requirement of service is